

NOTE XXIV.

ON THE FORMA PRIODONTA OF ODONTOLABIS
LOWEI, PARRY AND THE FORMA TELEDONTA OF
ODONTOLABIS SOMMERI, PARRY.

BY

J. R. H. NEERVOORT van de POLL.

Having recently obtained a part of the Coleoptera collected by Mr. Whitehead at Mount Kina Balu (N. E. Borneo), I was greatly pleased observing a few specimens of *Odontolabis Lowei* Parry, a species which is incontestably one of the very rarest of the genus and as yet still very imperfectly known. Dr. Leuthner, although having examined almost all the more important Musea and private collections, failed to find any more specimens except the unique type, an amphiodont male specimen. The five specimens I have now before me, are all of the priodont form and differ considerably in size, four of them having a length of ± 40 mm., whilst one individual measures 57 mm. *O. Lowei* is closely allied to *O. Brookeanus* Voll. and one of its distinguishing characters, the much broader black band at the base of the elytra, proves to be inconstant, however the shape and the sculpture of the mandibles is quite different, its prosternal process less developed and the elytral rim black beneath.

Description of the forma priodonta.

Mandibles shorter than the head, opaque being entirely covered with minute granules; the sides rounded, convex and regularly narrowed towards the tip (broadly sickle-shaped and flattened in *Brookeanus*); innerside with five contiguous irregular teeth. The tubercle behind the eyes is hardly indicated in small individuals, well marked but very blunt in the larger specimen.

Notes from the Leyden Museum, Vol. XII.

Measurements.

| Total length. mm. | Head. mm. | Mandibles. mm. | Prothorax. mm. | Elytra. mm. |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 57 | 12 by 18 | 11 | 10½ by 24 | 27 by 23 |
| 41½ | 9 » 12½ | 7 | 8½ » 18 | 21½ » 17½ |
| 39 | 7½ » 12 | 6 | 8 » 16½ | 20 » 16. |

The forma teledonta of *O. Sommeri* Parry remained also unknown to Dr. Leuthner. As could be expected from analogy of the other forms, the teledont mandibles of *Sommeri* prove to be much like those of *Brookeanus*, the principal difference being the want of the large basal tooth and the presence of small granular teeth below the median fork. My two specimens are of different development and the individual with the longest mandibles is very remarkable for its having a head with a little crest, of this no parallel form of *Brookeanus* is known as yet.

Description of the forma teledonta.

Mandibles longer than the head, strongly sickle-shaped, slender and flattened, ending in a single apical spine, which is followed by a fork on the innerside (the fork of *Brookeanus* more strongly developed), along the under margin below the fork and in connection with it with from three to five irregular large granules or small teeth and a single granule on the uppersurface just at the base. Head with the anterior margin emarginate in front or slightly produced in the middle in a gently curved line, forming a little crest, and with a broad epistoma-like clypeus, broader than that of *Brookeanus*.

Measurements.

| Total length. mm. | Head. mm. | Mandibles. mm. | Prothorax. mm. | Elytra. mm. |
|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 53 | 12 by 17 | 15 | 10 by 19 | 22½ by 19. |
| 52 | 11 » 17 | 13 | 9 » 19 | 22 » 18. |